GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1115
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
SHORTAGE OF TRAINING EQUIPMENTS FOR SPORTS
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Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several National Sports Federations have complained regarding the shortage of training equipments for sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons leading to shortage of training equipments just six months before Beijing Olympic Games 2008;

(d) whether the Long Term Development Plan (LTDP) covering training and procurement of required equipments has failed in its objectives;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to overcome the shortage of training equipments for the forthcoming Olympics?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) &(b) : While there have been no complaints from National Sports Federations (NSFs) as a whole regarding any shortage of training equipment in general, a few Federations have reported a shortage of consumables for the training of sportspersons. Specific complaints were received from the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) and the Badminton Association of India (BAI) regarding the shortage of ammunition and shuttle cocks, respectively. This matter was duly examined in the Ministry and a considered view was taken to decentralize the procurement process by allowing recognized NSFs to procure consumables on their own, following due procedure, on a reimbursement basis. The procurement of consumables by recognized NSFs as per entitlement under their respective Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) is, therefore, the responsibility of the NSFs concerned.

(c) Barring the disciplines mentioned above, no short supply of sports consumables for the preparation of athletes has been reported. Moreover, the Government has been providing significant support to both NRAI and the BAI for the preparation of high performing athletes. During the current financial year, NRAI has been provided support amounting to Rs.5.93 crores and the Badminton Association of India Rs.1.05 crore, which is essentially meant for the training and competition exposure of high performing athletes. In addition to this, the Sports Authority of India has provided support for the procurement of ammunition for national coaching camps for shooting, amounting to Rs.2.39 crores during the last three years. Similarly, for Badminton, they have provided consumables worth Rs.54 lakh. Over and above this, the Government have been providing liberal financial support for medal probable for the forthcoming Olympics under the National Sports Development Funds Scheme. Specifically, 9 renowned shooters are currently being supported under the Scheme.

(d) to (f) No, Sir, the LTDPs cover various aspects of the development of the sports, which includes training requirements, the requirement of equipment and consumables, coaching requirements, sports medicine requirements and infrastructure requirements. The NSFs are responsible for the implementation of the LTDPs and SAI plays the role of facilitator. Overall, the implementation of the LTDPs has been in conformity with what has been planned.